CLAIMS:

1. A method of establishing a communications call, including:

   selecting a B party using an interactive device connected to a public network;

5   sending called address data for said B party and calling address data for an A party to communications means of said public network; and

   establishing a call between said A and B parties over said public network using said communications means and said called and calling address data.

10  2. A method as claimed in claim 1, including accessing said called address data from said public network.

3. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said called address data is accessed in response to selecting said B party.

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4. A method as claimed in claim 2, including searching for said B party using said interactive device and a search module of said public network and a database of said public network including called address data.

20  5. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said interactive device is a computer device including a visual display.

6. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said interactive device is associated with said A party.

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7. A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said interactive device is a communications terminal for said call.

8. A method of originating a communications call, including:

30   selecting a B party using an interactive device connected to a public network; and

sending, in response to selection of said B party, selected party data corresponding to said B party to said public network;

whereby said public network provides said called address data for said B party to communications means for establishing a call between an A party and said B party.

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9.      A method as claimed in claim 8, including obtaining said called address data from said public network.

10.      A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said called address data is obtained in
10  response to a search for said B party using said public network.

11.      A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein said selected party data includes said called address data.

15  12.      A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said called address data is accessed on the basis of said selected party data.

13.      A method as claimed in claim 1 or 8, wherein said public network includes a messaging network for connecting a plurality of said interactive device and at least one public
20  telecommunications network for connecting said A and B parties.

14.      A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein said messaging network provides said interactive device with a plurality of B party data.

25  15.      A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein said messaging network accesses and forwards said called address data to said telecommunications network.

16.      An interface of an interactive device for originating a communications call, including:
        means for causing display of at least one B party;
30      means for enabling a B party to be selected on said display; and

a link which on being activated sends selected party data corresponding to said B party to a public network, whereby said public network instructs communications means of said public network to establish a call with said B party.

5 17.    An interface as claimed in claim 16, wherein said public network accesses called address data of said B party for said communication means on the basis of said selected party data.

18.    An interface as claimed in claim 16, wherein said display means displays called
10 address data for said B party, and said selected party data includes said called address data.

19.    An interface as claimed in claim 16, including means for generating a search for said B party using said public network, and means for receiving results of said search and forwarding said results to said display means.

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20.    An interface as claimed in claim 16, 17, 18 or 19, wherein said interface is sent to said interactive device by said public network on request from said interactive device.

21.    An interface as claimed in claim 20, wherein said public network includes a messaging
20 network, for connecting a plurality of said interactive device, and at least one public telecommunications network for establishing said call.

22.    An interface as claimed in claim 21, wherein said interface includes a HTML page with an applet for establishing said link.
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23.    An interface stored on an interactive device connected to a public network, including:
         code for generating a display on said device of B party data;
         code allowing selection of a B party from said B party data;
         code for transmitting to said public network selected party data corresponding to the
30 selected B party; and

code for transmitting to said public network A party data, whereby said public network establishes a call between an A party and a B party corresponding to said A party data and said selected party data.

5  24.    An interface as claimed in claim 23, including code for obtaining said B party data from said public network.

25.    An interface as claimed in claim 24, wherein said B party data includes called address data and said selected party data includes called address data for the selected B party.

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26.    An interface as claimed in claim 23, wherein called address data for said B party is accessed on the basis of said selected party data.

27.    An interface as claimed in claim 23, wherein said public network includes a TCP/IP

15  messaging network and at least one public switched telephone network for establishing said call.

28.    A system for use in establishing a communications call, including:
        called address data for parties connected to at least one public network;

20        an access module for transmitting said called address data for displaying an interactive device, and for receiving selected party data from said interactive device; and
        network means for receiving said selected party data, including called address data for the selected party, and calling address data corresponding to an A party and generating, in response thereto, network control signals to cause said network to establish a call between said

25  A party and said B party over said network.

29.    A system for use in establishing a communications call, including:
        a directory database including called address data for parties connected to at least one public network;

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an access module for receiving on said network selected party data corresponding to a B party and accessing called address data on the basis of said selected party data from said directory database; and

network means for receiving said called address data and calling address data
5 corresponding to an A party and generating, in response thereto, network control signals to cause said network to establish a call between said A party and said B party over said network.

30. A system as claimed in claim 28 or 29, wherein said network includes at least one public telecommunications network, such as a PSTN, for receiving said control signals and
10 establishing said call, and a messaging network, such as the Internet, for passing data between the A party, the access module and the network means.

31. A system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the access module includes directory data from said directory database for display by said A party.
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32. A system as claimed in claim 28 or 29, including a search module accessible by said A party over said network for searching said directory database.

33. A system as claimed in claim 28 or 29, wherein said call is established between a
20 terminal of the A party which selects said selected B party.

34. A system as claimed in claim 28 or 29, wherein said call is established between a terminal of the A party which is separate from the terminal selecting said B party.

25 35. A system as claimed in claim 28 or 29, wherein the calling address data includes an A party terminal number, account information and security information.

36. A directory server for use in establishing a communications call, including:
a directory database module for accessing directory data, including communications
30 address data, of parties connected to at least one public network;

a call connection module for transmission to an interactive device of a user and for accessing, for said interactive device, directory data using said directory database module;

a call completion module for receiving selected party data for a B party of said call from said interactive device and transmitting a connect message to communications means of

5 said public network for establishing said call, said connect message including communications address data for said B party obtained using said directory database module.

37. A server for use in establishing a communications call, including:

a call connection module for transmission to an interactive device of a user and for

10 transmitting a connection message from said interactive device;

a call completion module for receiving said connection message and forwarding a connect message to communications means of a public network for establishing a call between A and B parties;

wherein said connection message includes data identifying at least said B party and

15 said connect message includes communications address data for said A and B parties.

38. A server as claimed in claim 37, including a directory database module for accessing directory data, including communications address data, of parties connected to at least said public network, wherein the communications address data of said connect message for at least

20 said B party is obtained using said directory database module.

39. A server as claimed in claim 36 or 38, comprising a TCP/IP server connected to a TCP/IP network, such as the Internet, and wherein the public network is a telecommunications network, such as the PSTN.

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